

# USDA/Rural Development

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## News Release

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### **FORMAL MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT SIGNED**

**Wharton, Texas, July 16, 2002**—USDA Rural Development today announced the formal signing of an agreement with the City of Wharton. Wharton was selected as a Champion Community.

The designation means that this rural area located in Wharton County will be able to create opportunities for growth and revitalization through financial and technical assistance from USDA Rural Development along with leveraged funds from other state and federal agencies, and private investments. USDA Rural Development assistance will be used to support their strategic plan that identifies the need for active participation and the cooperation of public officials, business representatives, civic leaders, and private citizens in the planning process for further economic and community development. The Wharton Economic Development Corporation will serve in an administrative capacity to facilitate the strategic plan developed by the community.

“We are very excited about working with the City of Wharton to achieve their strategic planning goals,” said Bryan Daniel, Texas State Director. “USDA Rural Development programs are designed to assist rural communities with sustainable development.”

USDA’s Office of Community Development oversees the rural Champion Community initiative.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the USDA Local Service Center in Edna, Texas at (361) 782-7151 ext. 4.

USDA Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

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*The USDA Rural Development mission area was created in 1994 and includes the Rural Business-Cooperative Service, the Rural Housing Service, and the Rural Utilities Service. Its mission is to use the resources of USDA to provide an improved quality of life for the nation’s 53 million rural people.*

**For more information on USDA Rural Development programs in Texas, check our web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.**

